

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

By this Preliminary Amendment, the specification has been amended in order to comply with formal U.S. patent application requirements and also to clarify certain portions of the description.

In addition, original claims 1-10 have been canceled and new claims 11-33 have been added for examination.

For the convenience of the Examiner, the following table shows the correspondence between the original claims 1-10 and the new claims 11-33:

New Claims	Original Claims
11	1, 2
12, 26	2
13, 27	3
14, 28	4
15, 20, 29	5
16, 21, 30	6
17, 22, 31	7
18, 23, 32	8
19, 24, 33	9
25	1, 2, 10

The above-noted support in the original description and claims is representative and not limiting of the new claims 11-33. Additional support for the new claims 11-33 exists in the original description and can be identified, if necessary.

As is clear from the table above, new claims 11-33 find support in and substantially correspond to original claims 1-10, and for the most part, merely have been amended to conform the claim language to US practice.

Applicant wishes to note that new claim 11 corresponds to claim 1 submitted during the International phase according to PCT Art. 19, which was indicated as being novel and inventive in the International Preliminary Examination Report prepared by the EPO.

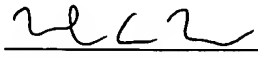
It is further noted that the Art. 19 claims have been submitted herewith for information purposes only. Examination is requested based upon the new claims 11-33 submitted in this Preliminary Amendment.

If the Examiner believes an interview, either telephonic or in person, will advance the prosecution of this matter, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned at the Examiner's convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

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